

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A lens barrel comprising:

a linear guide ring;

a linearly movable ring which is provided inside said linear guide ring and has a cam on an outer circumferential surface; and

a hand-operated rotating ring, provided outside said linear guide ring, which is capable of rotating in a circumferential direction and is incapable of ~~rotating~~ moving in an optical axis direction, with respect to said linear guide ring and which has a first ~~penetrate~~ penetrated groove,

wherein said linear guide ring, said linearly movable ring and said hand-operated rotating ring are provided concentrically to each other,

wherein a rotation motion of said hand-operated rotating ring with respect to said linear guide ring causes said linearly movable ring to move linearly along the optical axis direction, via said linear guide ring,

wherein said linear guide ring has a second ~~penetrate~~ penetrated groove penetrated in a radial direction, and

wherein a projection member, which is to be engaged with the cam provided on said linear movable ring, via the second ~~penetrate~~ penetrated groove of said linear guide ring, is inserted from an outside of said hand-operated rotating ring.

2. (original) The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein when said projection member is inserted, a length of said projection member, which is positioned in the second

penetrated groove, is substantially the same as a length of the second penetrated groove, in the optical axis direction.

3. (original) The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein the second penetrated groove of said linear guide ring is provided as a circumferential elongated groove in which the projection member does not block the rotation of said hand-operated rotating ring with respect to said linear guide ring.

4. (original) The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein said lens barrel serves as a zoom lens so that a desired focal length can be set freely by moving said linearly movable ring relative to said linear guide ring by a rotation of said hand-operated rotating ring.

5. (original) The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein said linear guide ring includes at least one linear guide slot extending parallel to said optical axis, and

wherein said linearly movable ring includes at least one projection which is slidably engaged in said linear guide slot.

6. (original) The lens barrel according to claim 1, wherein said linear guide ring includes a stationary ring.